

## WE CLAIM

1. An online method of confirming authenticity of a purchased good, comprising the steps of:
  - providing a record of authenticity with a good, said record of authenticity having authenticity data including an item code and an initial registration number unique to said good;
  - providing an internet accessible database having stored authenticity data for said good;
  - purchasing said good;
  - accessing said internet database;
  - forwarding a subsequent registration number different from said initial registration number;
  - registering an owner of said good purchased by entering said initial registration number, said subsequent registration number, said item code and purchaser information; and
  - storing said information in said internet accessible database relative to said good purchased.
2. The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said registration number is initially concealed on said record of authenticity until revealed by a purchaser.
3. The method as set forth in claim 1, further including a step of providing a serial number with said record of authenticity unique to said good.
4. The method as set forth in claim 3, further including a step of storing said serial number in said database prior to initial purchase of said good.
5. The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein purchaser information at least includes purchaser name, purchase price, and address of said purchaser.
6. The method as set forth in claim 1, further including a step of supplying a manufacturer of said good with said record of authenticity to be included with said good prior to purchase by a purchaser.
7. The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said database stores all authenticity data for all registered goods.

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8. The method as set forth in claim 1, further including a step of transferring ownership of said good purchased, comprising:

- providing a buyer with said record of authenticity from said purchaser;
- providing said buyer with said item code from said purchaser;
- entering said registration number and said item code into said database;
- providing said buyer with a different registration number from said registration number of said purchaser;
- registering said buyer as an owner by entering said different registration number and said serial number in said database.

9. The method as set forth in claim 8, wherein said different registration number is unknown to said purchaser.

10. The method as set forth in claim 8, wherein said step of entering includes accessing said database by said buyer.

11. The method as set forth in claim 8, wherein said step of providing said buyer with a different registration number includes forwarding said number by electronic means.

12. The method as set forth in claim 11, wherein said electronic means comprises at least one of encrypted electronic mail, telephone and facsimile.

13. The method as set forth in claim 11, wherein said step of providing said buyer with a different registration number comprises mailing said registration number.

14. A method for ensuring authenticity of an article purchased over the internet, comprising the steps of:

- providing a website having a database where articles are registered by an owner;
- providing a record of authenticity with said article to be registered, said record of authenticity having a registration number and an item number;
- entering said registration number and said item number in said database relative to said article;
- purchasing by a purchaser, said article and receiving said registration number and said item number;
- accessing said database;
- providing purchaser registration information to said database;

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confidentially receiving a buyer registration number different from said purchaser registration number from said database; and  
registering as a new owner of said article.

15. The method as set forth in claim 14, further including the step of confirming authenticity of a purchased article by comparison of owner information in said database relative to that provided when said serial number is entered into said database.

16. The method as set forth in claim 14, wherein said article comprises art work, jewelry, automobiles, musical recordings, clothing, documents and machinery.

17. A method for providing an author/creator with compensation for its commodity having originality value from purchases and transfer of ownership of said commodity over the internet, comprising the steps of:

providing a record of authenticity with a commodity, said record of authenticity having authenticity data including a registration number and item code unique to said commodity;

providing an internet accessible database having stored authenticity data for said commodity;

purchasing said commodity;

accessing said internet database;

registering an owner of said commodity purchased by entering said registration number, said item code and purchaser information;

providing said author/creator with a predetermined percentage of a purchase price of said commodity;

transferring ownership of said commodity to a subsequent purchaser;

providing said subsequent purchaser with said item code;

accessing said database and entering said item code;

confidentially forwarding a subsequent registration number different from said registration number;

registering said subsequent purchaser as a new owner of said commodity; and

providing said author/creator with a second predetermined percentage of said purchase price paid by said subsequent purchaser.

18. An online system for confirming authenticity of a good purchased on the internet, comprising:

means for identifying a good as an original;

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computer database means containing said means for identifying an article as an original;  
an internet computer network linking potential purchaser computers with each other and  
said computer database means;

means for registering purchaser information for a purchased good;  
means for confirming ownership of a purchased good to a registered purchaser; and  
means for confirming authenticity of a subsequently sold article from said purchaser to  
a new purchaser.

19. The system as set forth in claim 18, further including means for providing an  
originating author/creator with a predetermined quantity of compensation for each transaction.

20. The system as set forth in claim 18, further including means for forwarding  
fraudulent article details to at least one of said author/originator, law enforcement, manufacturer  
or distributor.

21. The system as set forth in claim 18, further including means for registering in  
said database a collection of authentic items of an owner.

22. A website for registering and confirming authenticity of an article, comprising:  
means for confirming an article for registration as an authentic article;  
means for registering an article;  
means for registering a user;  
means for registering an article with an owner;  
means for registering an article description;  
means for registering transfer of said article from an owner to a purchaser; and  
means for registering said purchaser as a new owner of said authentic article.